

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated January 6, 2010 and the Advisory Action dated April 26, 2010. Claims 11 and 14 to 17 are in the application, with Claim 11 being independent. Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant has not yet received an acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority or receipt of the certified copy. Such acknowledgment is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 11 to 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. These rejections are respectfully traversed, and are submitted to have been obviated by the amendments made in the April 5, 2010 Amendment After Final Rejection.

Claims 11 to 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,667,596 (Tsuzuki). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's undersigned representative during the telephonic interview conducted on June 3, 2010. During the interview, the Examiner tentatively indicated that she would be inclined to more favorably view the application if the claims were amended as set forth above.

The Examiner further indicated at the interview that the foregoing amendments would raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, and as such, that it would be necessary to file a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Accordingly, this Amendment is being filed together with an RCE.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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